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Title 63. Public Health and Safety

## □Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

**□**Title 63. Public Health and Safety

Chapter 1 - Oklahoma Public Health Code

Statistical Reporting of Abortion Act

Article Article 7 - Hospitals and Related Institutions

ESection 1-738n - Notice of Act Requirements - Failure to Submit Forms or Reports - Penalties - Compliance - Rules Cite as: 63 O.S. § 1-738n (OSCN 2015), Statistical Reporting of Abortion Act

A. The State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision and the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners shall notify, by March 1, 2012, all physicians licensed to practice in this state over whom they have licensure authority of the requirements of the Statistical Abortion Reporting Act and of the addresses of the pages on the **State Department of Health**'s secure Internet website providing access to the forms it requires and instructions for their electronic submission. The respective Board shall also notify each physician who subsequently becomes newly licensed to practice in this state, at the same time as an official notification to that physician, that the physician is so licensed.

- B. Individual Abortion Forms or Complications of Induced Abortion Reports that are not submitted by the end of a grace period of thirty (30) days following the due date shall be subject to a late fee of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each additional thirty-day period the forms or reports are overdue. Any monies collected under this subsection shall be deposited into an account created within the Department, which shall be used for the administration of the Statistical Abortion Reporting Act. Any physician required to report in accordance with the Statistical Abortion Reporting Act who has not completed and electronically submitted a form or report, or has submitted only an incomplete form or report, more than one (1) year following the due date shall be precluded from renewing his or her license until such fines are paid in full and outstanding forms or reports are submitted, and may, in an action brought by the **State Department of Health**, be directed by a court of competent jurisdiction to electronically submit completed forms or reports within a period stated by court order or be subject to sanctions for civil contempt.
- C. Anyone who knowingly or recklessly fails to submit an Individual Abortion Form or Complications of Induced Abortion Report, or submits false information under the Statistical Abortion Reporting Act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
- D. The Department, the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision and the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners shall ensure compliance with the Statistical Abortion Reporting Act and shall verify the data provided by periodic inspections of places where the Department, the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision or the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners know or have reason to believe abortions are performed.
- E. The Department may promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act to alter the dates established by the Statistical Abortion Reporting Act to achieve administrative convenience, fiscal savings, or to reduce the burden of reporting requirements, so long as the forms and reports are made available, on its stable Internet website, to all licensed physicians in this state, and the public reports described in Section 1-738m of this title are issued at least once every year.
- F. If the Department fails to issue the public reports described in Section 1-738m of this title, an action pursuant to Chapter 26 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes may be initiated. If judgment is rendered in favor of the plaintiff in any action described in this subsection, the court shall also render judgment for a reasonable attorney fee in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant. If judgment is rendered in favor of the defendant and the court finds that the plaintiff's suit was frivolous and brought in bad faith, the court shall also render judgment for a reasonable attorney fee in favor of the defendant against the plaintiff.
- G. If an abortion provider fails to submit any report required pursuant to Section 1-738k of this title, upon the refusal, failure or neglect of the State Commissioner of Health, within twenty (20) days after written demand signed, verified and served upon the State Department of Health by at least ten registered voters of the state, to institute or diligently prosecute proper proceedings at law or in equity to compel an abortion provider to submit any report required pursuant to Section 1-738k of this title but not yet submitted to the State Department of Health, any resident taxpayer of the state after serving the notice aforesaid may in the name of the State of Oklahoma as plaintiff, institute and maintain any proper action which the State Department of Health might institute and maintain to compel the abortion provider to file such report. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines the claims to be meritorious, the abortionist shall be compelled to file the report and to pay the fee(s) prescribed in subsection B of this section, with costs and

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reasonable attorney fees. If all claims stated by the resident taxpayers in the written demand are determined in a court of competent jurisdiction to be frivolous and brought in bad faith, the resident taxpayers who signed such demand and who are parties to the lawsuit in which such claims are determined to be frivolous and brought in bad faith shall be jointly and severally liable for all reasonable attorney fees and court costs incurred by the abortionist.

## Historical Data

Laws 2010, HB 3284, c. 276, § 6, eff. November 1, 2010; Amended by Laws 2013, HB 2015, c. 303, § 3, eff. November 1, 2013 (superseded document available).

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